NUM. CCCCXXXIII.

The SPECTATOR.

Perlege Mæonio cantatas carmine Ranas,
Et frontem nugis solvere disce meis. Mart.

Thursday, July 17. 1712.

THE Moral World, as consisting of Males and Females, is of a mixt Nature, and filled with several Customs, Fashions and Ceremonies, which would have no place were there but *One* Sex. Had our Species no Ears in it, Men would be quite different Creatures from what they are at present; their Endeavours to please the opposite Sex, polishes and refines them from those Manners which are most natural to them, often forces them upon moulding themselves, according to the Plans which they approve in their Opinions, but according to those Plans which are most agreeable to the Female. In a word, Man would not only be an unpolished, rude unwieldy Creature, were he to converse with none but those of his own Make.

Women, on the other side, are apt to form themselves in every thing with regard to that other sort of reasonable Creatures, with whom they are blended and confused; their Thoughts are employed upon appearing amiable to the other Sex; they talk, and move, and smile, with a design upon them. Every Feature of their Faces, every part of their Dress is filled with Snares and Allurements. There would be no such Animals as Prudes or Coquets in the World, were there not such an Animal as Man. In short, it is the Male that gives Charms to Woman-kind, that produces an Air in their Faces, a Grace in their Motions, a Softness in their Voices, and a Delicacy in their Complections.

As this mutual Regard between the two Sexes tends to the Improvement of each of them, we may observe that Men are apt to degenerate into rough and brutal Natures, who live as if there were no such things as Women in the World; as on the contrary, Women, who have an Indifference or Aversion for their Counter-parts in Human Nature, are generally lower and Unamiable, Sluttish and Censorious.

I am led into this train of Thoughts by a little Manuscript which is lately fallen into my Hands, and which I shall communicate to the Reader, as I have done some other curious Pieces of the same Nature, without troubling him with any Enquiries about the Author of it. It contains a summary Account of two different States which bordered upon one another. The one was a Commonwealth of *Amazons*, or Women without Men; the other was a Republick of Males that had not a Woman in their whole Community. As these two States bordered upon one another, it was their way, it seems, to meet upon their Frontiers at a certain Season of the Year, where those among the Men who had not made their Choice in any former Meeting, associated themselves with particular Women, whom they were afterwards obliged to look upon as their Wives in every one of these yearly Rencounters. The Children that sprung from this Alliance, if Males, were sent to their respective Fathers; if Females, continued with their Mothers. By means of this Anniversary Carnival, which lasted about a Week, the Commonwealths were recruited from time to time, and supplied with their respective Subjects.

These two States were engaged together in a perpetual League, Offensive and Defensive, so that if any Foreign Potentate offered to attack either of them, both the Sexes fell upon him at once, and quickly brought him to Reason. It was remarkable that for many Ages this Agreement continued inviolable between the two States, notwithstanding, as was said before, they were Husbands and Wives; but this will not appear so wonderful if we consider that they did not live together above a Week in a Year.

In the Account which my Author gives of the Male Republick, there were several Customs very remarkable. The Men never shaved their Beards, or pared their Nails above once in a Twelvemonth, which was probably about the time of the great Annual Meeting upon their Frontiers. I find the Name of a Minister of State in one part of their History, who was fined for appearing too frequently in clean Linnen; and of a certain great General that was turned out of his Post for Effeminacy, it having been proved upon him by several credible Witnesses that he washed his Face every Morning. If any Member of the Commonwealth had a soft Voice, a smooth Face, or a supple Behaviour, he was banished

nished into the Commonwealth of Females, where he was treated as a Slave, dressed in Petticoats, and set a Spinning. They had no Titles of Honour among them, but such as denoted some Bodily Strength or Perfection, as such an one *the Tall*, such an one *the Stocky*, such an one *the Gruff*. Their publick Debates were generally managed with Kicks and Cuffs, insomuch that they often came from the Council Table with broken Shins, black Eyes and Bloody Noses. When they would reproach a Man in the most bitter Terms, they would tell him his Teeth were white, or that he had a fair Skin, and a soft Hand. The greatest Man I meet with in their History, was one who could lift Five hundred weight, and wore such a Prodigious Pair of Whiskers as had never been seen in the Commonwealth before his Time. These Accomplishments it seems had rendered him so popular, that if he had not died very seasonably, it is thought he might have enslaved the Republick. Having made this short Extract out of the History of the Male Commonwealth, I shall look into the History of the neighbouring State which consisted of Females, and if I find any thing in it, will not fail to Communicate it to the Publick.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

AT the Theatre in Greenwich, on Saturday next, being the 19th Instant, will be presented the Loves of Ædio and Media, after the Italian Manner. Perform'd by Mr. Leveridge and Mrs. Lindsey. Intermixt with several Concertos and Dances between the Acts; particularly, a Dance of four Scaramouches, the Dutch Skipper, the Merry Miller and his Wife, with other Dancing. With a new Prologue set to Musick, and sung by Mr. Leveridge and Mrs. Lindsey. The Scenes will be laid open to the Pit for that Day. The price of each Ticket 3s. Tickets to be had at the Tilt-yard Coffee-house, at Nando's within Temple-bar, at John's in Swithin's Alley in Cornhil, and at Greenwich.

AT the famous Water-Theatre of the late Ingenious Mr. Winstanly, this present Thursday the 19th of July, will be an Entertainment of Several sorts of Wine and Biscuits given to the Company in the Pit and Boxes, all coming out of the famous Barrel, and agreeable to the hot Weather, there shall be German Spaw Water to drink, with the Wind drawn out of Several Coasts, and new River Water playing out of the Top at the same times; and then the Barrel shall be broke in pieces. There is also Coffee and Tea, and the same things as at other times. Box 5 this Night 3s. Pit 2s. 6d. the Galleries at the usual Prices, first Gallery 1s. 6d. upper Gallery 6d.

This Day is Published,

The Odes of Horace, in Latin and English. With a Translation of Dr. Bentley's Notes. To which are added Notes upon Notes, done in the Bentleian Stile and Manner. Part II. To be continued. N. B. Next Week will be Published the third Part. Printed for Bernard Lintott at the Cross Keys between the two Temple Gates in Fleetstreet.

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The Young Gentleman's Astronomy, Chronology and Dialling, Containing such Elements of the said Arts as are most useful and easy to be known. By Edward Wells, M. A. Rector of Cotesbach in Leicestershire. Printed for John Senex at the Crown in St. Paul's Church-Yard. Price 6s. Where Dr. Wells, Historical Geography of the Old Testament, his Paraphrase on the Romans, Galatians and Ephesians, the Difference, his Hebrew Grammatical, his Letter upon Reading, his Catechism, and Prayers.

The Seventh Edition of An easy and Safe Method for curing the King's Evil, with several Observations of Dr. Wells, which may be of Useful Service to People afflicted with that Distemper. To which is added, a Specimen of Cures in the Relation of many extraordinary Cures, viz. Running Ulcers, Eyes, and Scrophulous Consumptions, in Men, Women, and Children. With a particular Account also of the Author's own Cure by the same Remedies. By William Vickers, M. A. Printed for Mr. Marship at the Ship, against the Royal Exchange, Cornhill; and A. Collins, at the Black Boy against St. Dunstan's Church, Fleetstreet. Price 6d.

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A fine young Spanish Coach-horse to be Sold, his Master being dead; he has a Blaze, and four white Feet, and is about Hands and an half high. Enquire at the French Inn near Lincoln's where if any Person will leave word where he may be found, he light of a Chapman.

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